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THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

of the Medical Officer of Health

for 1943.

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STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health:-

J.H.KITSON, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor:-

R.HUNTINGTON, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector: -

J.L.M.PROSSER, L.I.O.B., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Housing Surveyor's Assistant:-

A.F.YOUNG.

Clerk:-

MRS. H.M. WILSON.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres)	61,360
Population (Census 1931)..	19,649
Population (registrar General's Estimate)	23,730
Number of inhabitated houses (Census 1931)	5,032
Number of inhabitated houses (end of 1943)	6,406
Rateable Value..	£108089
Sum representated by a penny rate... ...	£440.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births:- Total	442	231	211
Legitimate	418	217	201
Illegitimate	24	14	10
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	18.6		
Still Births -			
Legitimate	21	8	13
Illegitimate..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 45			
Deaths...	258	126	132
Deat Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population -	10.9		
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth:			
Puerperal sepsis... ...	0		
Other Maternal causes...	2		
Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births - 4.32			
Death if Infants under 1 year of age (Legitimate)	21	10	11
Death of Infants under 1 year of age (Illegitimate)	2	2	0
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:			
All infants per 1,000 live births	52		
Legitimate infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births	50		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	83		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	30		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0		
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	3		

TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS for the YEARS 1934 to 1943.

Year	Population estimates to middle of each year.	Deaths. Number	Rate.	Births. Number	Rate	Deaths under 1 year of age. Number	Rate.
1934	19,700	226	11.4	293	14.8	9	30
1935	18,160	230	12.6	282	15.4	12	42
1936	18,370	251	13.6	274	14.9	7	25
1937	20,110	251	12.4	266	13.2	15	56
1938	19.480	241	10.5	344	17.7	16	47
1939	21,030	249	10.1	373	18.2	23	61
1940	23,330	340	14.6	384	16.5	20	52
1941	24,610	283	11.5	425	17.3	18	42
1942	24,440	272	11.1	469	19.2	13	28
1943	23.730	258	10.9	442	18.6	23	52

Causes of Death in 1943.

	Disease	Male	Female
1.	Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	0	0
3.	Scarlet Fever	0	0
4.	Whooping Cough	0	0
5.	Diptheria	0	0
6.	Tuberculous of Respiratory System	6	5
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	3
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	0	0
9.	Influenza	3	2
10.	Measles	0	0
11.	Ac.Polio-myel : and Polio-enceph	0	0
12.	Ac.inf.enc.eph	0	0
13.	Cancer of b.cav.and oesoph (M) uterus (F)	0	4
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	3
15.	Cancer of breast	0	4
16.	Cancer of other sites	10	11
17.	Diabetes	4	5
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions	11	17
19.	Heart Disease	36	35
20.	Other diseases of circ.system	5	2
21.	Bronchitis	11	8
22.	Pneumonia	5	2
23.	Other Respiratory diseases	0	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	0
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	1
26.	Appendicitis	0	1
27.	Other digestive diseases	2	4
28.	Nephritis	1	4
29.	Puer: and post-abort:sepsis	0	0
30.	Other maternal causes	0	2
31.	Premature birth.	5	4
32.	Com:mal:birth inj:infant dis.	6	6
33.	Suicide	0	0
34.	Road traffic acc.	5	0
35.	Other violent causes	2	1
36.	All other causes	4	7
	TOTALS	126	132

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE YEAR.

During the year a large part of the staff's time was again employed in work directly attributable to the war activities.

AIR RAID SHELTERS.

The provision of further air-raid protection was confined to the issue of "Morrison" Inddor Table Shelters. Some Individual brick built shelters and baffle walls have been removed.

The total protection now consists of:-

725 Anderson Steel Shelters, of which 525 are concreted.
24 Surface Brick-built Communal Shelters.
31 Surface Brick-built Individual Shelters.
250 Baffle Walls.
264 Morrison Indoor Table Shelters (a number of which were collected and re-distributed).

WAR DAMAGED PROPERTY.

The repair of War Damaged property was the responsibility of the Public Health Dept. Damage was on a smaller scale. Only 11 were affected. First Aid repairs were executed promptly by the employment of local builders and where necessary complete reinstatement was made soon after. The total number of properties affected by War Damage is now 457.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection and disposal of Refuse and Salvage continued throughout the year. The number of Tips in regular use have been reduced to two.

The total salvage collected since the scheme was inaugunated, for a period of three years up to 31st March, 1943, was:-

	T.	c.	q.	£.	s.	d.
Paper	563	4	3	2035	-	1
Rags	40	11	-	529	1	4
Bones	33	1	0	126	19	4
Bottles	16	11	3	53	11	10
Iron	157	13	-	326	-	8
Tins	135	12	1	169	7	11
Non-ferrous metals	1	12	-	48	6	10
Kitchen Waste	37	7	-	43	10	6
Sundries	2	10	-	19	7	1
TOTAL	1,004	17	3	£3384	9	1

The value of salvage disposed of during the year amounted to £1,440.

RAT & MOUSE INFESTATIONS.

In compliance with a direction issued by the Ministry of Food, a survey was made with a view to locating infestations of Rats and Mice. The officer of the department undertook a short course of training and with the assistance of a temporary staff, a survey was made. Altogether 40 infestations were found, and one of these was classed as a "Major" infestation. In view of the Statutory Authorities reulctance to delegate powers to the District Council, the whole of the information collected as the result of the survey was forwarded to the County Council for the necessary action.

SURVEY OF UNNECESSARY IRON WORK.

During the year the Ministry of Works carried out the collection of unnecessary iron work and railings [illegible], in accordance with the survey made by this Council in 1941.

Parish:	Sufficiency	Satisfactory quality	Constant	No. of properties in Parish	No. served by piped water	Source of supply:
			Water Supply Position.			
ALKINGTON	No	No	-	200	-	Wells
ALMONDSBURY	Yes	Yes	Yes	2,000	1835	Part Bristol. Part West Glos. Water Co.
AUST	No	No	-	125	6	Wells. Part West Glos. Water Co.
ALVESTON	No	No	Yes	384	304	West Glos Water Co.
BERKELEY	No	No	No	307	50	Berkeley Estate Co.
CHARFIELD	No	No	-	244	-	Wells
CROMHALL	Yes	Yes	Yes	177	83	West. Glos Water Co.
FALFIELD	No	No	-	117	5	West Glos Water Co.
HAM & STONE	No	No	-	179	-	Wells
HAMFALLOW	No	No	-	256	-	Wells
HILL	No	No	-	40	-	Wells
HINTON	No	No	-	420	-	Wells
OLVESTON	No	Yes	Yes	367	224	West Glos Water Co.
OLDBURY-ON-SEVERN.	No	No	-	165	-	Wells
RANGEWORTHY	No	No	-	78	-	Wells
REDWICK & NORTHWICK	Yes	Yes	Yes	448	439	Part Bristol. Part West Glos Water Co.
ROCKHAMPTON	No	No	-	41	-	Wells
THORNBURY	No	No	Yes	1741	537	West Glos Water Co
TORTWORTH	No	No	-	52	-	Wells
TYTHERINGTON	Yes	Yes	Yes	146	121	West Glos Water Co.

A scheme is being prepared to improve the water supply of the northern part of the District. The Gloucester City Corporation has agreed to provide a piped water supply to the parishes of Alkington, Berkeley, Ham & Stone, Hamfallow, and Hinton, and the West Gloucestershire Water Company has agreed to transfer their rights of supply to the City Corporation.

Thornbury Rural District.

Parish:	Area Acres.	Houses in Parish	1 Number of houses with piped water supply under pressure. (maybe on outside of the House Wall).	2 Houses not having a supply, how many have their Curtilage within 100 hards of a Water Main available for supply.	3 Houses not covered by 1 or 2, how many are in villages, hamlets or groups consisting of 20 or more houses so placed as to lie within a circle of ¼ mile in diameter.	4 Of the houses no connected to a Public Sewer how many are in Villages or grouos of 20 or more houses so placed as to lie within a circle ¼ mile in diameter.
Alkington	4160	200	nil	nil	53 properties in 2 groups.	2 groups 53 houses
Almondsbury	8960	2000	1835	65	nil	9 groups 238 properties
Alveston	3200	384	304	26	nil	6 groups 170 properties
Aust	3360	1250	6	nil	3 groups 60 Prop	3 groups 60 prop.
Berkeley	320	307	50 Private Supply	nil	whole Parish. 307 in 1 Group	1 Group 307 houses
Charfield	1600	244	nil	nil	2 groups 162 prop.	2 groups 162 prop.
Cromhall	2560	177	83	40	nil	3 groups 64 prop.
Falfield	2240	117	5	nil	1 group 20 prop.	1 group. 20 prop.
Ham & Stone	4480	179	nil	nil	3 groups 99 prop.	3 groups 99 prop.
Hamfallow	3840	256	nil	nil	1 group 21 prop.	1 group 21 prop.
Hinton	1920	420	nil	nil	8 groups 313 prop	8 groups 313 prop
Hill	2080	40	nil	nil	nil	nil
Oldbury-on-Severn	4160	165	nil	nil	3 groups 70 prop.	3 groups 70 prop.
Olveston	3840	367	224	20	2 groups 77 prop.	2 groups 77 prop.
Rangeworthy	960	78	nil	nil	2 groups 40 prop.	2 groups 40 prop
Redwick & Northwick	4160	448	439	6	-	5 groups 106 prop.
Rockhampton	1120	41	nil	nil	nil	nil
Tortworth	1600	52	nil	nil	nil	nil
Tytherington	2240	146	121	nil	nil	2 groups 53 prop.
Thornbury	4640	741	537	-	2 groups 44 prop.	2 groups 44 prop.

Water.

(a) Particulars of new sources of Public Supply.....none.

(b) Measures taken for discovery of source of a contamination:-

21 samples were taken and submitted to bacteriological examination. These were obtained from 10 sources. 14 samples from 6 sources were reported as unsatisfactory.

Action taken.

In 5 cases the source was wells and in 1 case from a rain water system, 2 of which were improved by cleaning out. In 3 cases the conditions were improved, in 2 cases the use of the water was restricted and in the case of the rain water system the defect was rectified.

(c) The water supply is unsatisfactory in quantity in the Northpern part of the district (Berkeley, Hinton, Hamfallow, Falfield, Alkington, Charfield and Stone), and at Aust, Elberton and Littleton in the South. Extensions to existing water mains are also required at Alveston, Tockington, Olveston, Thornbury and Milbury Heath.

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE.

Particulars of Parishes where there is need for:-
1. A Sewerage system:- Charfield, Hinton and Tockington.
2. Improvements in existing sewerage:- Almondsbury, Berkeley and Olveston.

Rivers and Streams.

Any action to check the pollution of rivers and streams:-

The periodical inspection of all temporary disposal works and the sampling of effluents.

Closet Accommodation.

(a) Number of Earth Closets, pail closets or improved privies constructed... 3

(b) Number of replacements of earth closets, etc., by W.C's 3

Public Cleansing:
Refuse tips reduced in number to 2.
A contract has been entered into for the destruction of rats.
Salvage of refuse continued in operation.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

General Sanitation.	Number of Visits or Inspections.
Water Supply	61
Drainage	122
Tents, Vans and Sheds.	11
Bakehouses	21
Factories	-
Public Conveniences	61
Refuse Collection	66
Refuse Disposal	86
Rats & Mice	240
Smoke abatement.	-
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits) Re-visits)	219
Sewage Disposal	115
Schools	1
Disinfestation for Bugs	1
Verminous Premises	30

Visits. In connection with New Houses.	No. of Visits or Inspections.
Town Planning Visits.	8
Drainage	-
Building	50
Council House Repairs	302
Removal of unnecessary railings etc.,	62
Visits in connection with AIR RAID SHELTERS	74
Static Water Supplies for fire fighting	4
Housing.	
Under Public Health Acts.	
No. of houses inspected	12
Visits paid to above houses	30
Under Housing Acts.	
No. of houses inspected	2
Visits paid to above houses	8
Visits in connection with overcrowding	4
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	4
War Damage Property.	21
Infectious Diseases.	
Enquiries in cases of I.D.	36
Visits re Disinfection	78
Meat and Food Inspection.	
Inspection of Meat.	
Visits to Slaughterhouses	87
Visits to shops and stalls	3
Visits to other premises	5
Visits to:-	
Cowsheds	253
Dairies and Milk shops	8
Food Preparing Premises	1
Miscellaneous Visits in connection with food	36
Visits in connection with sampling.	
Milk-Bacteriological	27
Samples taken	35
Notices Served.	
No. of Informal Notices served	19
No. of Informal Notices complied with	18
No. of Statutory Notices served	-
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	-
Total Visits	2,143

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.	
(a) Inspections made...	1,283
(b) Nuisances discovered or reported (Total)	88
" " " (Swine only)	
(c) Complaints received	33
(d) Informal or preliminary notices sent	19
(e) Statutory notices sent	-
(f) Nuisances abated during the year..	87

(g) Summons issued... 4
(h) Convictions obtained... ... 4

Shops and Offices.

Shops and Offices 81
Number inspected 20
Number of inspections 20

No action was taken during the year under the provisions of the Shop Act, 1934, or under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Camping Sites.

(a) Number of sites used for camping during the year 11
(b) Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 11
(c) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during summer Seasons 250

Smoke Abatement.

Observations made... ... ... -
Complaints received. ... ... -
Swimming Baths and Pools. As in 1939

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

	Council Houses	Other Houses
(a) Number of houses found to be infested	-	1
(b) Number of houses disinfested	-	1

Schools.
All Schools in the area were inspected.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(a) (1) Inspection of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 14
(11) Number of Inspections made for this purpose 43
(b) (1) Number of houses included under above which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1937 2
(11) Number of inspections made for this purpose 8
(c) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation 2
(d) Number of houses, exclusive of those referred to under (c), found not to be in all respect reasonably fit for human habitation 14

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notice.

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action... 14

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936. 2

4. All New Houses.

(1) Total New Houses erected during the year (Council and private enterprise) -
(2) New Houses erected during the year with State Assistance under Housing Acts ... ... -
(3) New Houses erected during the year (without subsidy)... ... ... -
(4) New Houses during the year proposed to be erected under Housing Acts but not yet built -

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Number of Dairies and Cowsheds inspected 151
Number of inspections... 253

Action taken may be summarised as follows:-

(a) Cowsheds improved... 22
(b) Dairies reconstructed 22
(c) New and improved yards... 13

(b) Meat and other Foods.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	not known	-	-	2	not known
Number inspected		1	-	2	1349

Carcasses Condemned.

	Cattle (excl: cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs.
All diseases except Tuberculosis: - Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-
Part of carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned.	-	10 (offal)	-	1	5
Percentage of the number of carcasses inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	-	-	-	100%	.37%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	11
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	99
Number of carcasses inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	8.15%

Condemned Foods Register.

During the year the following weight of food was inspected and condemned:-

Meat. (Pigs only) Tuberculosis	1756
" Other diseases	526
254 tins and jars various foods, approx weight	420
Other foods	122
	2824 lbs

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox.	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	57	8	-
Diptheria	7	6	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-
Pneumonia	34	2	7
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Dysentary	18	18	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2	2	-
Measles	541	1	-
Whooping Cough	18	1	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-

AGE GROUPS.

Disease	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	2o-34	34-45	45-65	65 & over	TOTALS
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	3	4	4	13	18	5	4	5	1	-	-	57
Diptheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	-	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Pneumonia	3	-	2	-	1	1	1	1	4	4	6	11	34
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
Dysentary	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	4	8	-	1	-	18
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Measles	30	60	46	62	64	234	21	10	11	3	-	-	541
Whooping Cough	1	4	1	1	8	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	20
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

DIPTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

a.	Number of pre-school children immunised	452
B.	Number of school children immunised	363
c.	Number of notifications (children under the age of 15)	2
d.	Number of children included in (c) who have received a complete course of immunisation	None
e.	Number of deaths from Diptheria	None
f.	Number of deaths included in (e) in which the child is known to have completed the course of immunisation not less than 12 weeks before the onset of the disease.	None

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases & Mortality during 1943.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	-	2	3	-	-	2	1
5	3	1	1	2	-	-	-	2
15	4	7	-	-	-	3	-	-
25	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
35	4	3	1	-	3	1	-	-
45	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	16	13	4	5	6	5	3	3

Under the agreement with the Bristol Corporation for the treatment of Scabies, 116 cases have attended the clinic at a cost of £54. 10. 0.